

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A compressor assembly comprising:
 - a compressor driven by a motor;
 - a protector for limiting operation of said motor and activated upon a predetermined condition;
 - said compressor, said motor and said protector being within a compressor housing; and
 - a signaling device signaling the meeting of said predetermined condition to a location outside of said compressor housing.
2. The compressor assembly of Claim 1 wherein said protector is a motor protector.
3. The compressor assembly of Claim 2 wherein activation of said switch activates said signaling device.
4. The compressor assembly of Claim 3 wherein said switch is mounted generally in parallel with said signaling device.
5. The compressor assembly of Claim 4 wherein when said switch is open, current will flow to said signaling device.
6. The compressor assembly of Claim 1 wherein said signaling device comprises a light.
7. The compressor assembly of Claim 1 wherein said predetermined condition relates to an overload condition of said compressor.

8. The compressor assembly of Claim 1 wherein said signaling device comprise a terminal post.
9. The compressor assembly of Claim 1 wherein said compressor is a scroll compressor.

10. A scroll compressor comprising:
 - a pair of scroll elements interfitting to define compression chambers;
 - a drive shaft driven by an electric motor having a stator and a rotor, said drive shaft causing one of said two scroll members to orbit relative to the other; and
 - a motor protector switch mounted in conjunction with a winding of said stator, said motor protector switch including a switch which is selectively opened to stop operation of said electric motor, and a signaling device associated with said motor protector switch to provide a signal external to a compressor housing when said switch is opened.

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11. A method of signaling an overload condition for a compressor comprising the steps of:

providing a compressor driven by a motor ;
limiting operation of said motor upon a predetermined condition; and
signaling the meeting of said predetermined condition to a location outside of said compressor.

12. The method of Claim 11 wherein limiting operation comprises the step of shutting down said motor.

13. The method of Claim 11 wherein signal comprises the step of illuminating a light.